

# Christopher George Takacs

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## EDUCATION:

- 2019 Ph.D., University of Chicago, Sociology  
(expected) Dissertation: *Becoming Interesting: Cultural Capital Development Among Elite Undergraduates*  
Awards and Fellowships: Honors in Special Fields Paper (2012), Social Science Fellowship (2007-2012), Charles Bidwell Fund (2012)
- 2008 M.A., University of Chicago, Sociology
- 2005 B.A., Hamilton College, Sociology (Honors), Philosophy (Honors), Senior Fellow

## PUBLICATIONS:

- 2014 *How College Works* (book)  
with Daniel F. Chambliss  
Harvard University Press  
Recipient of the Virginia and Warren Stone Prize for an Outstanding Book on Education and Society  
Translated into Korean (Hakjisa Publisher Inc., 2017)
- Forthcoming *Becoming Interesting: How Elite Undergraduates Build Cultural Capital Through Narrative*  
Accepted for publication at *Qualitative Sociology*
- In Progress Dissertation:  
*Becoming Interesting: Cultural Capital Development Among Elite Undergraduates*

## TEACHING:

- 2016 Reading and Research on Higher Education (independent study mentoring)  
Sociology Department, University of Chicago
- 2014 Reading and Research on Higher Education (independent study mentoring)  
Public Policy Department, University of Chicago
- 2012 Lecturer: Higher Education: Policy, Stratification, and Culture  
Public Policy Lectureship, University of Chicago
- 2010-2011 Preceptor  
Public Policy Department, University of Chicago
- 2010 Teaching Intern: Power, Identity, and Resistance  
with Max Whyte, University of Chicago
- 2009 Teaching Intern: Power, Identity, and Resistance  
with Jim Leitzel, University of Chicago
- 2009 Co-Lecturer: Sociology of Law

- with Ryon Lancaster, University of Chicago
- 2003-2005 Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Existentialism, History of Ancient Western Philosophy (two semesters)
- with Todd Franklin, Celeste Friend, Hamilton College
- 2003-2005 Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Logic
- Higher Education Opportunities Project, The Posse Foundation

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2004-2016 Assessing Liberal Arts Education (\$800,000)
- Assistant Director
- Andrew Mellon Foundation and Hamilton College
- We conducted in-depth interviews with 100 college students yearly for six years, in addition to collecting writing samples and other measures, to determine whether and how college students improve across a variety of outcomes, and what in-college factors most directly influenced their success in and beyond college.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

- 2018 Takacs, Christopher G. (2018) "Becoming Interesting: How Elite Undergraduates Build Cultural Capital Through Narrative." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Regular Session, Sociology of Higher Education: Pathways through College.
- 2016 Takacs, Christopher G. (2016) "How College Works: Data Analytics for Facilities Management." (With Daniel F. Chambliss). NoName Conference on Facilities Management. University of Maryland.
- 2014 Takacs, Christopher G. (2014) "The Arithmetic of Engagement" (With Daniel F. Chambliss). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Regular Session, Sociology of Education: Innovation and Change in Higher Education.
- 2014 Takacs, Christopher G. (2014) "How Small Classes Create Big Classes" (With Daniel F. Chambliss). Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Formal Paper Session: Colleges and Universities as Organizations.
- 2014 Takacs, Christopher G. (2014) "College as a Social Process." Invited Lecture, Public Policy Department Symposium, University of Chicago.
- 2013 Takacs, Christopher G. (2013) "Faculty Gatekeepers and Academic Taste in Undergraduate Students' Choice of Major" (with Daniel F. Chambliss). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Roundtable Session, Sociology of Education.
- 2013 Takacs, Christopher G. (2013) "Social Capital and Local Decision Making in Students' Selection of Major" (with Daniel F. Chambliss). Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Formal Paper Session: Colleges and Universities as Organizations.
- 2012 Takacs, Christopher G. (2012) "Local Decision Making in Students' Selection of Major" (with Daniel F. Chambliss). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Regular Session, Sociology of Education: Patterns and Consequences of College Sorting.

- 2010 Takacs, Christopher G. and Daniel F. Chambliss. (2010) "How Students Choose their Major." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2010. Sociology of Education Roundtable. Post-Secondary: Transitions to College.
- 2010 Takacs, Christopher G. (2010). "How Students Choose their Major." Social Theory and Evidence Workshop, University of Chicago, 2010.

#### **PAST POSITIONS:**

- 2010-2011 Member, Manuscript Review Board,  
American Journal of Sociology
- 2008-2010 Member, Book Review Board  
American Journal of Sociology
- 2006-2007 Web Content Management Consultant  
Social Science Research Council

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP:**

- 2010-2011 Manuscript Review Board, American Journal of Sociology
- 2008-2010 Book Review Board, American Journal of Sociology
- 2010- Peer Reviewer, American Journal of Sociology
- 2007- Active Member, American Sociological Association
- 2011- Active Member, Midwest Sociological Society
- 2008-2009 President, Society for Social Research, University of Chicago

#### **REFERENCES:**

Andrew Abbott  
Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished  
Service Professor  
Professor of Sociology  
University of Chicago  
773 702 4545  
a-abbott@uchicago.edu

Daniel F. Chambliss  
Eugene M. Tobin Distinguished Professor  
Professor of Sociology  
Hamilton College  
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Kristen Schilt  
Associate Professor of Sociology  
Director of the Center for the  
Study of Gender and Sexuality  
University of Chicago  
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